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Dkt. 655/63396

THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of : Shinya MATSUOKA

Serial No. : 08/841,397

Group Art Unit: 2155

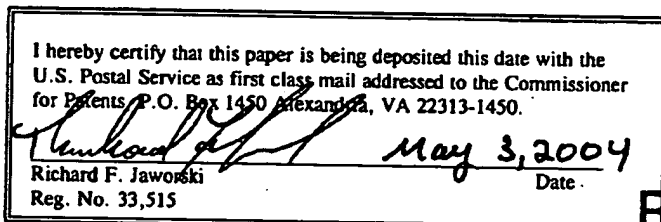
Date Filed : April 30, 1997

Examiner: K. Dinh

For : SPATIALIZED AUDIO IN A THREE-DIMENSIONAL,
COMPUTER-BASED SCENE

1185 Avenue of the Americas
New York, N.Y. 10036

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450



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AMENDMENT

MAY 11 2004

Sir:

Technology Center 2100

In response to the Office Action dated November 3, 2003, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this Amendment.

The Remarks portion begins on page 20 of this Amendment.

based 'attenuation of sound". However, sound decay characteristics of the present disclosure may also take into account "decay characteristics according to the sound's behavior" (e.g., see page 6, line 26-28). According to embodiments of the present disclosure, this feature allows for *changing* the distance-based attenuation of sound based on *energy* of the sound wherein when "the sound is a low-energy sound, such as a wind chime, the sound will decay quickly. If the sound is a high-energy sound, such as a waterfall, the sound will decay slowly" (e.g., see page 7, lines 1-7). Such taking into sound decay characteristics according to the sound's behavior is not taught or suggested in Bruno et al. taken with or without Cohen et al.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits independent claim 1 is patentable over the cited art.

Independent claims 9, 18, 45 and 47 are believed to be patentable over the cited art for at least similar reasons.

Everett is not believed to supply any of the elements missing from Bruno et al. and Cohen et al. Accordingly, independent claims 17 and 46 are believed to be patentable over the art of record for at least similar reasons.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the independent claims are patentable over the cited art for at least one or more of the above-mentioned reasons.

The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required in connection with this Request and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If an additional petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition, and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this Request and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard F. Jaworski', is written over a horizontal line.

RICHARD F. JAWORSKI

Reg. No. 33,515

Attorney for Applicant

Cooper & Dunham LLP

Tel.: (212) 278-0400